

THE GREAT ORIENTAL WAR.

RESPONDENCY IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

It is conceded at Constantinople that the Pasha's position is exceedingly critical. The fall of Arslan and Bayazid, it is admitted, will compel him to accept battle against a vastly superior force on the right bank of the Bosphorus, which is practically defenseless. The report of the capture of Arslan has not been confirmed. In Serbia the war spirit is very strong. There was a great demonstration at Belgrade yesterday in favor of Russia. The Porte has decided to admit foreigners to the Ottoman army.

AFFAIRS AT THE TURKISH CAPITAL.

PROMINENT PERSONS EXILED FOR ACTING WITH THE SOFTAS—THE FOREIGN RESIDENTS ALARMED. Constantinople, Tuesday, May 29, 1877. The newspapers state that among those exiled for participation in the last Sofia demonstration are Agah Effendi, a Counselor of State; Ismail Bey, chief of a department in the Foreign Office; Emin Bey, formerly Chamberlain to the Sultan Abdul Aziz, and Kunal Bey and Monir Bey, journalists. The foreign Ambassadors have been informed by the Porte that the state of siege will not interfere with the privileges of foreign subjects. Proceedings will only be taken against a foreign subject with the concurrence of his consul.

LONDON, Tuesday, May 29, 1877. A Constantinople (May 25) telegram to *The Standard*, received by way of Athens, says: "Redif Pasha, Minister of War, is now dictator, and for the time more powerful than ever. Great anxiety prevails among the European population, who fear that during the state of siege, if news of fresh disasters arrive, there will be a collision between the populace and the troops."

LONDON, Wednesday, May 30, 1877. A Vienna telegram to *The Standard* says: "The wildest rumors are in circulation concerning the condition of affairs at Constantinople. It is said a conspiracy has been discovered against the dynasty, with ramifications in the provinces. A court-martial sitting, with closed doors. The only certain fact is that Mahmud Damad Pasha insists upon drafting all the Softas into the army."

The Morning Post (Government organ) gives prominence to the following: "The Turkish Government have decided to admit foreigners to its service. A number of English gentlemen who have had experience in our own army are about to join the Ottoman forces. Among these volunteers is the Hon. Mr. Drummond."

THE CAMPAIGN IN ARMENIA.

GLOOM AT CONSTANTINOPLE—THE FALL OF ERZERUM FEARED—RECAPTURE OF ARDABAN NOT CONFIRMED. Constantinople, Tuesday, May 29, 1877. A Constantinople (May 25) telegram to *The Standard* (pro-Turkish), received by way of Athens, says: "Our position is one of very great danger, and is generally so regarded. It is certain that fresh disasters must happen. The fall of Arslan and Bayazid has enabled the Russians to march in two converging lines toward Erzerum. They have turned Erzerum, and Mushtar Pasha must either accept battle against a vastly superior force or capitulate. If he is beaten, Erzerum must fall, for it is without fortifications, and the force in it is small."

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

THE TURKS WATCHING THE SERBIAN FRONTIER—THE Czar TO COMMAND THE ROMANIAN TROOPS AS WELL AS HIS OWN. LONDON, Tuesday, May 29, 1877. A Constantinople (May 25) telegram to *The Standard* says: "The Turkish Government are watching the Serbian frontier with great anxiety. The Czar will, on his arrival, formally take command of both the Russian and Romanian armies. All cause of jealousy will thus be avoided. This, however, does not alter the arrangement by which the Romanian army remains on the northern bank of the Danube."

WAR SCENES AND TOPICS.

THE TURKISH WAR MINISTER. The Minister of War has a snug berth in time of peace, but when hostilities open he becomes the target of military and popular criticism. In camp he is a do-nothing and at home he is a martinet. The Turkish War Minister is neither a Czar nor a Stanton, but only a Redif Pasha, a swaggerer, and a blunderer. When the campaign opened he electrified Constantinople day after day with tidings of victory—thousands of Russians moved down at Batum, Pott and Chifetzli bombarded and blazed, and insurrections breaking in the Caucasus. The good people of Constantinople became suspicious of the War Minister's wife, had some doubts as to the honesty of the Chamber of Deputies, and questioned him sharply and forced him to admit that the official bulletins were a tissue of exaggerations. It was necessary, he pleaded, to encourage the people by the publication of cheerful tidings. He was asked several times if he had adopted a new policy: he said of the supply of news at least—a course which rendered him still more unpopular in the Chamber and in the streets.

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RUSSO-TURKISH WAR NOTES.

THE EGYPTIAN CONTINGENT FOR TURKEY HAS NOT GONE YET.

ALEXANDRIA, Tuesday, May 29, 1877. The Egyptian contingent for Turkey has not gone yet. The reason of this detention is unknown.

THE EMPEROR FRANCIS JOSEPH AND THE Czar WILL MEET AT HERNSTADT.

VIENNA, Tuesday, May 29, 1877. The Emperor Francis Joseph and the Czar will meet at HerNSTADT.

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